UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/85
1 March 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
Item 104 (c) of the preliminary list*

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Letter dated 28 February 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the English and French versions of a declaration of the European Union on the Sudan, issued on 21 February 1994 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 104 (c) of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Antonios EXARCHOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Greece
to the United Nations

* A/49/50.

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Declaration of the European Union on the Sudan, issued on 21 February 1994

The European Union remains deeply concerned at the suffering being inflicted on the Sudanese people by the continuing civil war and the ever-worsening human rights situation in the Sudan. The Union therefore condemns the current bombings by the Sudanese air force, which are harming the civilian population and causing a mass exodus to neighbouring countries. Consequently, the European Union would urge the parties to implement an immediate cease-fire as the first step towards a negotiated overall settlement.

Such military action against a population already sorely tried by the conflict in southern Sudan is unacceptable, particularly since it constitutes an inadmissible obstacle to humanitarian aid. The European Union has frequently impressed on all parties to the conflict the negative effects of their military activities and the fact that they are therefore primarily responsible for the fate of the Sudanese people. The Union stresses the major effort which the international community, including the European Union, has been making for a long time to assist those sectors of the population which are victims of the violence.

The European Union remains prepared to hold a frank dialogue with the Sudanese authorities on all the political and humanitarian concerns of the international community. It also intends to continue its talks with the factions in the south of the country in the interests of peace.

The European Union urges the Sudanese Government and all parties involved to make a serious effort to achieve a negotiated solution to the conflict between them. In this connection, it is fully backing the diplomatic efforts being made under the aegis of the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD) by the four heads of State in the region.